



MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Health Department

MEASLES HEALTH ADVISORY

December 29, 2014

To: Health Care Providers in Mecklenburg County

In the last week, one unvaccinated individual was diagnosed with confirmed red measles (Rubeola) in Mecklenburg County. The patient had traveled to a country with endemic red measles. Telephone calls have been placed to exposed individuals.

Live measles vaccine may prevent disease in unvaccinated individuals if given within 72 hours of exposure. Immune Globulin may prevent or modify disease if given with 6 days of exposure. Vaccination can be offered at any interval following exposure in order to offer protection from future exposures.

Recommendations:

1. Consider a diagnosis of measles in patients if they have clinically compatible symptoms. Isolate and notify the Mecklenburg County Health Department immediately if the patient illness meets the clinical case definition for measles or if you suspect measles.

Clinical case definition for Measles (Rubeola)

An acute illness characterized by:

- Generalized, maculopapular rash lasting ≥ 3 days; and
 - Temperature $\geq 101^{\circ}$ F; and
 - Cough, coryza or conjunctivitis
2. Any patient presenting with a febrile rash illness should be immediately isolated, using airborne isolation precautions.
 3. Ensure that all employees who work in health care settings have evidence of immunity to measles. Evidence of immunity to measles for persons who work in health-care facilities includes any of the following: 2 doses of live measles vaccine at least 28 days apart, laboratory evidence of immunity, laboratory confirmation of disease, or birth before 1957.
 4. Provide MMR vaccine to all unvaccinated patients who are eligible for vaccine.

Clinicians who suspect measles should immediately notify the Communicable Disease Control Program at the Mecklenburg County Health Department 24/7 emergency line (704-432-0871). Clinicians who have questions, may telephone 704-336-2817 and ask to speak to a Communicable Disease Nurse.